IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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FEB 1 2 2004

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In re Application of:

Yuasa et al

Application No.: 10/025,588

Art Unit: 1713

Mt Ollit. 1713

Filed: December 26, 2001

Examiner: Helen Lee Pezzuto

For: Polycarboxylic Acid Copolymer, Production

Method and Use Thereof

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

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FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: Feb. 12, 2004

Application Number 10/025,588-Conf. #7945

Patent Number

Inventor: Tsutomu Yuasa et al.

MESSAGE TO: US Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9306

FROM: CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

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Attorney Dkt. #: 21581-00284-US

PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 14

CONTENTS:

Amendment (11 pages)
Fee Transmittal (1 page)

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U.S. Petent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCS Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Complete If Known FEE TRANSMITTAL 10/025,588-Conf. #7945 Application Number December 26, 2001 Filing Date for FY 2004 Tsutomu Yuasa First Named Inventor Effective 10/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision. Examiner Name Helen Lee Pezzuto Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 Art Unit 1713 TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT 21581-00284-US Attorney Docket No. METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) FEE CALCULATION (continued) 3. ADDITIONAL FEES Deposit Account Small Entity Large Entity 22-0185 Fés Code Fee (\$) Fee Fee Description Number Fee Paid 1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or cath Connoily Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP Namo Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover 1052 50 2052 25 The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) sheet. X Fred it any overpayments Charge fee(s) Indicated below 1053 130 1053 130 Non-English specification X Charge any additional fee(s) or ony underpayment of fee(s) 1812 2,520 1812 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexemination Requesting publication of \$IR prior to 1804 1804 920* Charge feels) indicated below, except for the filling fee Examiner ection 1,840° Requesting publication of SIR efter to the above-identified deposit account. 1805 1.840 1805 Examiner ection FEE CALCULATION 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month 1251 110 1. BASIC FILING FEE 1252 420 2252 210 Extension for reply within second month Large Entity Small Entity 1253 950 2253 475 Extension for reply within third month Code Fee Description Fas Paid 1254 1.480 2254 740 Extension for reply within fourth month (\$) 1001 770 2001 385 Utility filing fee 1255 2,010 2255 1,005 Extension for reply within fifth month 1002 340 2002 170 Design filling fee 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Access 1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee 1402 330 2402 165 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 1004 770 2004 385 Raissue filing fee 1403 290 2403 145 Request for oral hearing 1005 160 2005 Provisional filing fee 1451 1451 1,510 P etition to institute a public use proceeding 60 1.510 1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable SUBTOTAL (1) (5) 0.00 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1501 2601 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE 1,330 665 Utility Issue fee (or release) 1502 480 2502 240 Dasign latue fee Fee Paid Total Claims 20 -20** = 0.00 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee Independent 1460 8 6172.00 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner 2 1807 50 1807 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) Multiple Dependent 1806 180 1806 160 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt Large Entity Small Entity Fee Code Fee (\$) Recording each patent assignment per Fee Description 8021 40 8021 Code (5) property (times number of properties) Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) 1202 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 18 1809 770 2809 385 1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 For each additional invention to be 1810 770 2810 385 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid examined (37CFR 1.129(b)) 1204 85 2204 43 ** Reissus independent claims 1801 770 2601 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) over original patent Request for expedited examination 1802 900 1802 900 1205 2205 ** Raissup claims In excess of 20 18 of a design application and over original patent Other fee (specify) SUBTOTAL (2) (8) "Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (8) 0.00 ""or number previously paid, if greater, For Releaues, see above SUBMITTED BY (Complete (if applicable)) Registration No. (Atlamey/Agent)

24,852

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Date